NOTE

HUMAN ORAL MYIASIS IN VIRGINIA CAUSED BY *GASTEROPHILUS INTESTINALIS* (DIPTERA: GASTEROPHILIDAE)

The horse bot fly, *Gasterophilus intestinalis* (L.) is a widespread species causing enteric myiasis in equines. Subcutaneous myiasis due to gasterophilids, often broadly termed "creeping eruption" or "larval migrans," has been reported involving people associated with horses. In these instances 1st-instar larvae burrow into the skin and produce tunnels which are accompanied frequently by an intense itching sensation. Infestations may end spontaneously or by suppuration (James. 1947. USDA Misc. Publ. 631:92–99). Zumpt (1965. Myiasis in man and animals in the Old World. Butterworths, London. 267 pp.) states that these misplaced larvae never reach the second stage.

Creeping eruption in man tends to occur on the extremities (Austmann. 1926. J. Amer. Med. Assoc. 87:1196–1200). Chereshnev (1953. Dokl. Akad. Nauk (N.S.). 91:173–176) found that rubbing or moistening of *G. intestinalis* eggs is necessary to stimulate hatching. He reported that 1st-instar larvae could penetrate the mucous membrane, but not human skin. However, Danilov (1973. Med. Parazitol. Parazit. Bolezn. 42:361) described multilinear human myiasis with puritis and skin vesicles on the extremities and stomach caused by 65 *G. equi* (= *intestinalis*) larvae.

James J. Keeble, Entomologist, Maintenance Division, Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Norfolk, provided the following information from a case of human myiasis in Virginia. On 22 December 1976 a 10-year-old Virginia Beach girl complained of an irritation in her mouth. Subsequently, a physician removed a small *G. intestinalis* larva from the inner lining of her mouth near the jaw. Further examination of the oral area and tongue revealed no other larvae.

The girl received a horse as a present two months before the infestation was noticed. She was with the horse regularly and kissed it frequently. It is not known if the infestation was a direct result of oral contact or if the larva was transferred to the mouth indirectly. The former route seems likely.

Sukhapesna et al. (1975. J. Med. Entomol. 12:391–392) reported that *G. intestinalis* eggs deposited in late fall in Kentucky may remain viable for several months. Hatch of field-collected eggs terminated in late January. They stated that egg age and environmental temperatures probably influenced egg viability.

Causey (1937. J. Econ. Entomol. 30:39–40) noted that the presence of animal myiasis in livestock poses potential public health problems for

humans. While such cases may produce relatively mild discomfort, they demonstrate that care should be exercised by persons in close contact with domestic livestock or pets. A variety of parasites may be encountered under similar circumstances, several of which are not so benign.

Dr. R. J. Gagné, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, IIBIII, Agric. Res. Serv., USDA, confirmed identification of the specimen.

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NOTE

CYLINDROCNEMA PLANA MAYR, 1865, A SENIOR SYNONYM OF *NOPALIS CRASSICORNIS* (REED), 1898 (HEMIPTERA: ACANTHOSOMATIDAE)

The Heteroptera that formed the basis of Edwyn C. Reed's "Sinopsis de los Hemipteros de Chile, Primera Parte: Heteropteros" was purchased by Carl J. Drake who bequeathed his collection, including Reed's specimens, to the United States National Museum where it is now housed. All specimens from the Reed collection bear a printed label "Sin. Hem. Chile Coll., E. C. Reed" but, unfortunately, very few bear a locality label; some of the specimen-pins bear Reed's handwritten identification labels. Among the latter specimens is one labeled "L. crassicornis N. S. ♀." Even though this specimen has no locality label it is hereby designated the lectotype of *Lanopis crassicornis* Reed. The other specimen of the two that comprised the type-series is missing; both specimens were reported in Reed's original description (1898. Rev. Chileña de Hist. Nat. 2:156–157) as being from the island of Chiloe.

Reed's specimen agrees very well with the original description of *Cylindrocnema plana* Mayr (1865. Verh. Zool.-Bot. Ges. Wien. 14:912–913), and especially in such critical characters as two-segmented tarsi; large size [15 mm here, 12 mm in Mayr's description]; thickened antennal segments, especially the second and third; angularly produced humeral angles concave along the posterior margin; hemelytral membrane narrowly produced along costal margin [to a point about opposite mid-length of corio-membranal suture]; prosternum with a deep mediolongitudinal groove [as wide as labial segment I]; and venter of abdomen mediobasally convex but without anteriorly projecting tubercle or spine. Comparison of Reed's specimen with specimens labeled as *C. plana* revealed no taxonomic differences and showed that both species share the lack of a foliaceous carina on the mesosternum.